

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-4, 7, and 8 without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter. Please AMEND claims 5 and 6, as follows.

Claims 1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The linear motor apparatus having a coil array of plural phases of coils and a magnet relatively movable to said coil array, comprising:

plural drivers, at least one of which being provided for each phase, to feed a polarity determination current to all the same phase coils of said coil array;

measurement means for measuring a change of relative position of said magnet moved by the polarity determination current to said coil array; and

a controller to determine the polarity of a drive current to be applied to the same phase coils based on the change of the relative position measured by said measurement means, and apply the drive current to drive said magnet in a desired direction to the same phase coils according to claim 1,

wherein after first settling of said magnet by a first polarity determination current ~~by a first current~~ to first same-phase coils, said measurement means measures the position of second settling of said magnet driven by a second polarity determination current to second same-phase coils,

and wherein said controller sets a first phase angle to said first same-phase coils and a second phase angle to said second same-phase coils as phase angle information to

specify a current position of said magnet, based on the position of the second settling measured by said measurement means.

6. The linear motor apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said controller applies a the drive current to drive said magnet in a predetermined direction to said first same-phase coils or said second same-phase coils, based on said phase angle information.

Claims 7 and 8. (Cancelled)